

Mayor's Message – April 2017

As an airline pilot for over 30 years, I had many friends in the industry and people that I trusted, but I never felt I was part of a family like I do here. I love this job and the employees who are the family that keeps it running. I also acknowledge the leadership of each department heads as they manage their departments. I feel privileged to work side by side with them and all the other employees that make up the "Murray City Family."

I recently shared my State of the City Address with City Council members, residents, staff members, friends and family. That opportunity afforded me the chance to brag about Murray City. As residents, our quality of life is second to none, and I want to highlight some of the reasons I feel why that is true. Here are just a few parts of the speech. To view it in its entirety, visit murray.utah.gov/civicmedia.

At the beginning of the year, while compiling information for our General Plan update, respondents were asked what element was most important for neighborhoods. Over 74 percent ranked safety and low crime as their number one concern. Our Police Department is terrific and provides many services to our community in addition to law enforcement. Last year, they saw many changes. The K9 program was reinstated, and the canine handler was selected from within the ranks of the Patrol Division. The dog will be trained and certified in many different areas to assist our officers.

Our Library continues to be one of the busiest buildings in the city. Over 1000 people walk through the doors each day. They average three activities per day. The building continues to be used to the maximum as the auditorium is booked almost every evening and is used daily for activities. Their YouTube channel gets 1700 views daily.

The year of 2016, ended with our Power Department completely out of debt. Their bond was paid off, and all of their priority projects were completed. Their reserve cash remains positively stable. Although being financially stable is a priority, the most important focus of the department is their reliability of power and customer service. The department takes a great amount of pride in being proactive to reduce issues that could cause power outages.

Our parks are truly gems scattered throughout our city. Murray Park saw many projects this year, including two new restrooms, LED lights throughout the park, the start of the overlay on the asphalt trail, six new pickleball courts and free WiFi to all areas in the park. Other park projects include the resurfacing of our portion of the Jordan River Parkway trail and the start of our \$2.7 million Amphitheater renovation, which hosts over 80 productions through the season. We estimate that over 2 million people use our parks every year.

In summary, the State of Murray City is strong. I am proud of the accomplishments that make up our past and those accomplishments that allow us to be very optimistic and excited about the shape of things to come in the future.

Sincerely,



Ted Eyre
Mayor